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New Mexico stands ready to become a leader in a new, clean energy economy.

Our country's dependence on foreign oil threatens our economy and security. We need to take bold steps to become energy independent by growing a clean energy economy. With investments in renewable energy, we can create new jobs in a variety of industries. We can put scientists and engineers to work solving problems holding back wide scale renewable energy use. Los Alamos National Laboratory is conducting research to make it easier to store and transport energy generated from renewable sources.

In New Mexico, we are already ahead of the game--ready to take advantage of these investments. We instituted a Renewable Portfolio Standard, one of the strongest in the nation. We developed energy efficiency standards. Our schools in the Third Congressional District are already training students for the jobs of the future in clean energy generation—training students in towns like Espanola, Farmington, Santa Fe, Rio Rancho, Taos, Portales, Las Vegas and Tucumcari.

Innovation for Energy Independence

We must make a commitment to restore science and innovation as the keys to a new American economy. Innovation is the future for New Mexico, and it is up to us to ensure that those new solar panels, chips for computers, and a workforce for the 21st century are built right here in New Mexico. New Mexicans can and will make America a cleaner, more prosperous, and safer place for all of us.

Ben understands that we must build and improve on new transmission infrastructure while incorporating new technologies that will improve efficiency. Ben is committed to supporting fundamental research and development in areas such as energy storage and large-scale concentrated solar generation. Ben supports comprehensive transmission planning that will allow for the deliverability of new renewable technologies, create greater economic development in rural areas, and improve the reliability and security of our nation's power. We must develop renewable technologies that have the ability to store millions of watts of electrical energy that can be released back into our electric grid, so we can take full advantage of the abundant renewable potential in the U.S. and New Mexico. Ben also supports investment in a smart electric grid—a grid that will support energy efficiency, lower consumer energy costs and support our growing renewable energy industry as it creates jobs for the future.

Training Our Workforce for a Clean Energy Economy

To ensure the success of the clean energy movement, we must prepare and train our workforce for careers in the new green economy. Ben strongly supports the development of curriculum and training programs that prepare students and workers for the jobs of the future. He understands the unique needs of rural, economically disadvantaged and minority communities, and is committed to ensuring that all workers have access to green jobs training.

Congress is investing resources into the clean energy economy, and this means real jobs for real people. Ben supports increased renewable energy curriculum development in our universities and community colleges, so our students can become trained and certified to work in renewable industries like wind and solar. Ben believes in investing in internship programs that will provide students hands-on opportunities with commercial applications. He supports investment in teacher training programs so our teachers are well versed on the latest clean energy technologies. Preparing our workforce is a key component for a successful transition to a clean energy economy, and the Ben supports a serious and significant investment in green jobs education and training.

Several colleges and universities in the Third Congressional District are already preparing students for a clean energy economy. Our schools, many across the district are training students for the jobs of the future in clean energy generation--in towns like Espanola, Farmington, Santa Fe, Rio Rancho, Taos, Portales, Las Vegas and Tucumcari.

The Northern New Mexico College Solar Energy Research Park and Academy, the North American Wind Research Center at Mesalands Community College and the Renewable Energy Program at San Juan Community College are all helping students in the district learn new skills to participate in a clean energy economy. In Congress, Ben will look for ways to support these programs.

Improving Energy Efficiency

Investments in energy efficiency will help move New Mexico toward energy independence, create green jobs, and save families and businesses money. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act made significant investments in energy efficiency improvements in New Mexico. Communities can use these investments to improve energy efficiency by performing energy audits, retrofitting homes and businesses, and creating new programs encouraging energy efficiency improvements.

Listen to Ben Talk About Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency

Ben Delivers a Floor Speech on Renewable Energy

Ben Discusses Clean Energy on the Floor

Ben Offers an Amendment to Promote Sustainability and Energy Efficiency

New Mexico Renewable Energy Resources and Links

[New Mexico Energy Conservation and Management Division](#)

[New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority](#)

[New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, Renewable Energy](#)

[New Mexico Assessment for Biomass Resources](#)

[New Mexico Building Energy Codes](#)

[Industrial Technologies Program Activities in New Mexico](#)

[New Mexico Hydropower Resources Report](#)

[New Mexico Wind Activities](#)

[Geothermal Resource Map](#)

[Green Power Resources in New Mexico](#)

[Solar Resources](#)

[Tribal Energy Program Projects in New Mexico](#)

[Wind Resource Map](#)

[Transportation Fuel Vehicle Incentives and Laws in New Mexico](#)

[Energy Office Project Briefs](#)

[SEP Projects in New Mexico](#)